

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 SSM-05 PA-02

INR-07 SS-15 NSC-05 /046 W

-----078058 102047Z /61

O 181855Z AUG 77

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9307

NSC WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION SINAI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 1231

USIAC

USIA FOR IOP/M, INA, IBS, IPS

SECSTATE FOR S/PRS AND PA

NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: REMARKS BY PM BEGIN TO THE PRESS FOLLOWING HIS

MEETING WITH SEC OF STATE VANCE DURING MORNING

OF AUG 10, 1977

BEGIN: THE TALKS WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND HIS ADVISORS
WERE EXCELLENT AND THEY CAN WIND UP NOW TO SAY THAT THEY WERE
CONDUCTED IN THE MOST FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE. SOME PEOPLE, BEFORE
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I WENT TO WASHINGTON, EXPECTED A SO-CALLED CONFRONTATION.
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF STATE ARRIVED IN
ISRAEL SOME PEOPLE SAID NOW THERE WILL BE THE CONFRONTATION.
I CAM BACK FROM WASHINGTON WITHOUT ANY CONFRONTATION EXCEPT
WITH THE HEAT. IT WAS TERRIBLY HOT IN WASHINGTON DURING OUR
VISIT. AND NOW I CAN SAY - NO CONFRONTATION WITH THE SECRE-
TARY OF STATE. SOMETIMES MY IMPRESSION IS THAT THERE ARE

PEOPLE WHO WAIT WITH A WRISTWATCH - WHEN IS THERE GOING TO BE A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA? SO THERE IS NO CONFRONTATION, THERE IS REAL FRIENDSHIP, EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, AND THE NEXT STAGE WILL BE SEPTEMBER MEETINGS BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON THE ONE HAND AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF ISRAEL AND SEVERAL ARAB NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES ON THE OTHER HAND. THAT IS THE NEXT STAGE AGREED UPON.

Q: WERE YOU ABLE TO BRIDGE THE GAP, OR NARROW THE GAP IN ISRAELI-ARAB RELATIONS DURING MR. VANCE'S VISIT HERE?

A: WELL, SEC OF STATE BROUGHT OUR PROPOSALS AND AMERICAN PROPOSALS TO THE ARAB LEADERS. WE HAVE THEIR REPLIES AND NOW WE WILL MEET AGAIN. THE MOMENTUM IS GOING ON.

Q: WILL THE SEC OF STATE BE ABLE TO BRING THE ARAB LEADERS TOMORROW ANYTHING NEW TO THE ISRAELI POSITION?

A: WELL, WE BROUGHT OUR PROPOSALS TO THE PRESIDENT IN WASHINGTON; THE SEC OF STATE KNOWS OF THEM VERY WELL. YOU WILL HAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE WITH THE SEC AT 4:30, SO THE QUESTIONS CONCERNING HIS REACTION SHOULD BE PUT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Q: DID THE SECRETARY CALL ON YOU TO RECONSIDER ANY OF YOUR PROPOSALS TO THE PLO?

A: NOT AT ALL, NOT AT ALL. I THINK I MADE CLEAR OUR STAND TOWARDS THE PLO YESTERDAY NIGHT AT THE KNESSET ANESOUR STAND WAS PUBLISHED VERY WIDELY AS I UNDERSTAND ALSO IN THE UNITED STATES. THIS IS OUR STAND AND WE UNFLINCHINGLY SAY THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THERE BE ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SO-UNCLASSIFIED

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CALLED PLO.

Q: MR. PRIME MINISTER, WHAT WASN'T CLEAR LAST NIGHT IS YOUR REFERENCE, IT WAS ALMOST YOUR CRYPTIC REFERENCE TO THE GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS. NOW DID YOU MEAN THE ENDURANCE OF TRAVELLING SO FAR OR DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING SUBSTANTIVE IN MIND FOR CREDITING THE SECRETARY WITH GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS, AND COULD YOU TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT IT?

A: WELL I REPEAT THAT THERE IS A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT BY THE SEC OF STATE DURING HIS TRIP AND AS I TOLD YOU YESTERDAY PRIVATELY I SUPPOSE I RECOGNIZE YOU VERY WELL OR PERHAPS I TOLD ONE OF YOUR COLLEAGUES, I ASKED THE SEC OF STATE AND WE AGREED THAT WE ARE NOT GOING TO DISCLOSE IT FOR THE TIME BEING. ONE DAY EVERYBODY WILL KNOW BUT I CAN REPEAT THAT IT IS A REAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE PEACE-MAKING PROCESS. I USED THE WORD ACHIEVEMENT. I REPEAT IT TODAY.

Q: MR. MINISTER, DID ISRAEL GIVE ITS REPLY THIS MORNING TO THE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS AND SUGGESTIONS WHICH SECRETARY VANCE HAS BROUGHT TO ISRAEL AND TO THE OTHER COUNTRIES?

A: WE GAVE THAT REPLY, NOT TODAY, YESTERDAY.

Q: WERE THESE SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS HAVE TO DO WITH THE SHAPE OF THE FINAL SETTLEMENT (INAUDIBLE)...?

A: YES, WE ARE SPEAKING ABOUT PEACE TREATIES OF COURSE.

THIS IS THE FINAL POSITIVE SETTLEMENT.

Q: MR. MINISTER ... (QUESTION INAUDIBLE)?

A: WE DISCUSSED MANY ISSUES, VARIOUS ISSUES.

Q: MR. MINISTER, HAVE YOU CHANGED ANY OF YOUR POSITIONS SUBSTANTIALY SINCE YOU WERE IN WASHINGTON?

A: NOT AT ALL, WHY SHOULD I? I THINK OUR ATTITUDE AS WE EXPLAINED TO THE PRESIDENT IS A VERY POSITIVE, A GOOD ONE; WE ARE FOR TALKS TO CONCLUDE PEACE TREATIES; WE ARE FOR RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WITH PROPER REPRESENTATION, ACCREDITED DELEGATION OF SOVEREIGN STATES. IF WE ARE ASKED TO INCLUDE LEBANON, WE ARE AGREED THAT LEBANON CAN PARTICIPATE, ACCREDITED DLEGATIONS OF SOVREIGN STATES. WE ALSO BROUGHT ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS IF OUR ARAB NEIGHBORS MAKE IMPOSSIBLE THE RECONVENING OF ANOTHER SESSION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE

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THROUGH THE INSISTENCE ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SO-CALLED PLO. (INAUDIBLE)...ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS; THERE IS NO REASON WHATSOEVER TO CHANGE. I THINK WE TOOK A VERY POSITIVE INITIATIVE AND IT WORKS.

Q: DO YOU EXPECT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TO BE CONVENED IN OCTOBER?

A: WELL I WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING FOR SURE ABOUT THE MONTH. WE SAID THAT WE WILL BE PREPARED TO GO TO GENEVA STARTING FROM THE TENTH OF OCTOBER. PRESIDENT SADAT EVEN SAID THAT HE IS PREPARED TO GO EARLIER THERE, SO IT WAS ACTUALLY ACCEPTED BY HIM, BUT IF THERE ARE SOME DIFFICULTIES ON THE ROAD AND THE GENEVA CONFERENCE MAY RECONVENE, LET ME SAY IN NOVEMBER, THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY TRAGEDY IN IT. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF A FEW WEEKS.

Q: ARE THERE ANY DIFFICULTIES IN THE MEETING IN OCTOBER THEN?

A: THEN WE SHALL SEE DURING THE TALKS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS IN SEPTEMBER.

Q: WERE YOU NOT DISAPPOINTED BY PRESIDENT CARTER FOR HIS READINESS TO RECOGNIZE THE PLO ACCEPTANCE OF RESOLUTION 242?

A: I AM A GREAT ADMIRER OF THE PRESIDENT AND I SAID SO IN PUBLIC AFTER OUR MEETINGS. AS YOU KNOW HE ALSO IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE EMPHASIZED IT AND THEREFORE I WOULDN'T GO INTO ANY CRITICISM OF THE PRESIDENT. WHAT I CAN SAY IS, AND I THINK THE SECRETARY IS OF THE SAME OPINION, HE KNOWS NOW OUR STAND. THAT WAS THE SO-CALLED PLO IS AN ORGANIZATION BENT ON THE DESTURCTION OF ISRAEL, AND WHETHER THEY PROVE WITH THEIR RESERVATION OR INTERPRETATION OF 242 OR NOT, IS NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL. WE KNOWWHAT THEY WANT. THEY WANT TO DESTROY ISRAEL AND THEY WROTE IT IN THEIR SO-CALLED COVENANT OR CHARTER AND THEREFORE WE STATED WHAT IS OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THAT ABOMINABLE ORGANIZATION YESTERDAY AND I THINK ON THIS WE HAVE A COMPLETE NATIONAL CONSENSUS, PERHAPS EXCEPT THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN OUR COUNTRY WHICH IS COMPLETELY SUBSERVIENT TO MOSCOW. ALL THE

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OTHER PARTIES HAVE THIS ATTITUDE -- THAT SO-CALLED PLO IS NO PARTNER WHATSOEVER AND NEVER WILL BE TO NEGOTIATE ABOUT ANYTHING WITH.

Q: MR. MINISTER, WHEN YOU WERE IN WASHINGTON

(INAUDIBLE)....?

A: NO HE DOES. WE STAND BY A FREE NEGOTIATION, COMPLETELY FREE FROM PRIOR CONDITIONS, FROM PRIOR COMMITMENTS AND FROM ANY NOW I QUOTE "EXTERNALLY DEVISED FORMULA FOR A SETTLEMENT." THE PARTIES THEMSELVES SHOULD DECIDE THE CONTENTS OF THE PEACE TREATIES. WE STAND BY IT.

(END TEXT)

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 18-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Comment:
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